

CALIFORNIA  
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CAUCUS



1998 ROSTER

SENATOR RICHARD POLANCO, CHAIR  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER DENISE MORENO DUCHENY, VICE CHAIR  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER LIZ FIGUEROA, WHIP

*Dear Friends,*

*As members of the Latino Legislative Caucus, we hope that this brochure is helpful in familiarizing you with our membership. Each member's unique background contributes to the success and perspective of the Latino Legislative Caucus.*

*Our goals are not unique, since the Latino Legislative Caucus agenda is in reality the American agenda.*

*Our membership is comprised of thirteen Assemblymembers and four Senators, many of whom hold leadership positions within their respective houses. As a Caucus we are committed to addressing issues that affect the Latino community in California.*

*For additional information or questions, we urge you to contact our individual offices.*

*Sincerely,*



Senator RICHARD POLANCO  
Chair



Assemblymember DENISE MORENO DUCHENY  
Vice-Chair



Assemblymember LIZ FIGUEROA  
Whip

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Senator Ruben S. Ayala .....	1
Assemblymember Joe Baca .....	2
Assemblymember Cruz M. Bustamante .....	3
Senator Charles M. Calderon .....	4
Assemblymember Tony Cardenas .....	5
Assemblymember Gilbert Cedillo .....	6
Assemblymember Denise Moreno Ducheny .....	7
Assemblymember Martha M. Escutia .....	8
Assemblymember Liz Figueroa .....	9
Assemblymember Martin Gallegos .....	10
Assemblymember Sally M. Havice .....	11
Assemblymember Diane Martinez .....	12
Assemblymember Grace Napolitano .....	13
Assemblymember Deborah V. Ortiz .....	14
Senator Richard G. Polanco .....	15
Senator Hilda L. Solis .....	16
Assemblymember Antonio R. Villaraigosa .....	17
Latino Legislative Caucus Directory .....	18

## ***Senator Ruben S. Ayala***

*32nd Senate District: portions of San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties, including the cities of San Bernardino and Pomona.*



Ruben S. Ayala, a Democrat, was first elected January 15, 1974, in a special election. The 32nd Senatorial District includes portions of San Bernardino County, the nation's largest, and Los Angeles County, and encompasses the cities of San Bernardino and Pomona.

Senator Ayala's long record of community service began with his election to the Chino School Board in 1955 where he served until 1962. In 1962, he was elected a city councilman, and in 1964 he became Chino's first elected mayor. He was elected to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors in 1966, reelected in 1970, and served as chairman from 1968 to 1972. During these years, he also served as director and president of the Southern California Regional Association of County Supervisors, chairman of both the East Valley and West Valley Planning Agencies, chairman of the San Bernardino County Health Committee, director of the Pomona Freeway Association, director of League of California Cities - Citrus Belt Division, chairman of the Chino Police Commission, and chairman of the Chino Parks and Recreation Commission.

Born in Chino, Senator Ayala graduated from Chino High School, and attended Pomona Junior College, UCLA Extension School, and graduated from the National Electronic Institute in Los Angeles. He is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and saw action in the South Pacific during World War II with the First Marine Division.

His numerous awards for community services include "Legislator of the Year" awards from the California Veterans of Foreign Wars; 1989-90 AMVETS, Department of California; the Association of California Water Agencies; the American Public Works Association, San Bernardino-Riverside Branch; and Democrats United, County of San Bernardino. He is the recipient of "Citizen of the Year" awards from the Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce; San Bernardino County Veterans of Foreign Wars; Mexican/American Political Association; and the Kiwanis Club Cal-Nev-Hawaii District.

The City of Rialto named a street after Senator Ayala in 1981 and the City of Chino named a City park in his honor in 1982. The County of San Bernardino renamed a park in his honor in 1983, and in 1985 the California Inland Empire Council Boy Scouts of America honored him as one of its Special Jubilee Year Distinguished Citizens. In 1986 the Chino School District Board of Education named the newest high school the Ruben S. Ayala High School, and the League of California Cities named him the 1986 Testimonial Dinner Recipient for his outstanding community leadership in the fight against cancer, and the California State Polytechnic University Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi conferred their 1988 award for Statesmanship to Senator Ayala for his work towards providing a stable economy in the area of labor and management.

Senator Ayala is a life member, First Marine Division Association; a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Native Sons of the Golden West, the American Legion, life member the Veterans of Foreign Wars and a Life Member of the Parent Teachers Association of Chino. Senator Ayala resides in Chino with his wife, the former Irene Morales. They have three sons, Bud, Maurice and Gary. The Ayalas have three grandchildren, Danielle, Sarah Rose and Amy Ayala.

Senator Ayala serves on the Committees on Rules, Agriculture and Water Resources (Vice-Chair), Local Government (Vice-Chair), Veterans Affairs (Vice-Chair), Business and Professions, Senate Ethics Committee and Transportation.





## *Assemblymember Joe Baca*

*62nd Assembly District: San Bernardino, Rialto, Colton, Grand Terrace, Fontana, Bloomington, Loma Linda, and portions of Highland, Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga.*

Assemblymember Joe Baca's career in Sacramento has been one of historic firsts. Elected to the Assembly in 1992, he was elected Speaker pro Tempore of the Assembly — the first Latino to serve in this capacity since California joined the Union in 1850. He is currently the third ranking leader of the Assembly serving as Assistant Speaker pro Tempore and was recently appointed the Speaker's Federal Government Liaison. He also is a member of the powerful Rules Committee.

As Assistant Speaker pro Tempore, Assemblymember Baca shares the responsibility of presiding over the Assembly floor sessions with the Speaker pro Tempore. From the dais, he oversees the discussion of legislation, advises Assembly members on parliamentary procedure and presides over votes impacting the state of California, in addition to other responsibilities.

In his role as the Speaker's Federal Government Liaison, Assemblymember Baca is in regular contact with officials from the White House and the executive branch, California's congressional delegation, and other officials in Washington. Recently, he has been involved in the structuring of federal assistance for California's transportation needs.

As a member of the powerful Rules Committee, Assemblymember Baca is involved in the initial assignment of bills to policy committees. The committee also is responsible for the administration of the Assembly, including the funding for its standing committees and the employment rules governing members and their staffs.

Assemblymember Baca also plays an active role on the Appropriations Committee where he gives close review to spending for state programs and responsibilities in addition to the state's revenue.

He also chairs the Assembly Select Committee on Defense Conversion. Assemblymember Baca also is a member of the Committee on Governmental Organization, Labor and Employment Committee, Transportation Committee, and the Committee on Utilities and Commerce. In addition, Assemblymember Baca is a member of the Joint Committee on Rules, the Select Committee on Aerospace, the Select Committee on Corridors of Economic Significance, and the Select Committee on Veterans Affairs.

Assemblymember Baca also has been extremely active in the community. In 1979, he was elected to the San Bernardino Community College Board of Trustees — the first Latino to serve in that office in the district's 53 years. He also has given his time and energy to business, veterans, and other civic groups in the district.

He has been honored as a Citizen of Distinction by the San Bernardino Area League of Women Voters. Not only has Joe been named Kiwanian of the Year by the Greater San Bernardino Kiwanis Club, he also was named "Distinguished Citizen" by the Inland Empire District Council of the Boy Scouts of America; Outstanding Legislator by the California Rifle and Pistol Association; Outstanding State Legislator 1994 -1995 by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States; and Legislator of the Year by the American Legion, Department of California. In 1996, he was honored with the Minority Male of the Year Award from the Greater Riverside Area Urban League.

Before coming to Sacramento, Assemblymember Baca earned his bachelor's degree in sociology at California State University - Los Angeles. Later, he worked for 15 years in community relations with GTE. In 1989, he and his wife, Barbara, began their own business as partners in Interstate World Travel in San Bernardino. They have four children.

## ***Assemblymember Cruz M. Bustamante***

*31st Assembly District: portions of Fresno and Tulare Counties, including Dinuba, Fowler, Kingsburg, Orange Cove, Parlier, Reedley, Sanger and Selma, and nearly half the city of Fresno, as well as parts of Tulare and Visalia.*



Cruz M. Bustamante became Speaker of the Assembly in 1996 following his election to a third term representing the 31st Assembly District. Known as a moderate consensus builder, Bustamante represents parts of Fresno and Tulare counties in the heart of California's Central Valley. Born to Dominga and Cruz Bustamante, Jr. in Dinuba in 1953, Bustamante is a first-generation Californian and the first Latino to become Speaker of the Assembly.

In Bustamante's first year as Speaker, the Legislature reduced class sizes, enacted a \$1.7 billion tax cut, extended health insurance coverage to 600,000 low-income children, rolled back student fees at state universities and colleges and toughened penalties for home invasion robberies and criminals who use guns. Bustamante also led efforts to restore a safety net for legal immigrant children and seniors that had been cut under federal legislation.

Bustamante's legislative efforts include bills to increase business' access to capital, promote economic development in rural counties and ensure stable funding for higher education.

Bustamante is a prime backer of UC Merced, the planned 10th University of California campus and the first to be built in the underserved Central Valley. As Speaker, Bustamante served as a Regent of the University of California and a Trustee of the California State University. He is committed to ensuring that K-12 instruction in California fully prepares students to take advantage of the state's world-class higher education system and that the doors of the system remain open to all qualified students.

To increase jobs in California, Bustamante has worked to promote the state's businesses, including the key agriculture, high tech and wine industries, and created the Assembly's first Committee on International Trade and Development. Bustamante recently led a delegation of business, government and academic leaders to Mexico, where they met with President Zedillo and other government leaders to help improve relations and increase trade opportunities for California companies.

In honor of his family, teachers and all those who have encouraged him, Bustamante is deeply committed to helping others succeed. He frequently travels to classrooms to share his "You Can Too" message with children throughout the state to help convince them of the importance of working hard and staying in school.

Bustamante has been described by US News & World Report as "built moderate and rising fast."

Cruz and Arcelia Bustamante celebrated their 20th anniversary in 1997. They have three daughters and two grandchildren.



## ***Senator Charles M. Calderon***

*30th Senate District: South El Monte, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, Vernon, Whittier, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Maywood, Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Commerce, Huntington Park, Montebello, and a small area of Los Angeles.*

Charles M. Calderon has been a member of the California State Senate since his election during an April 1990 special election. He won re-election to the Senate in November 1994 and currently represents the 30th Senate District.

From November 1982 to April 1990, Calderon served as an Assemblyman representing the 59th District. Previously, he served as an assistant to the General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, DC, and as a special consultant to California Secretary of State March Fong Eu. He has also served as General Counsel to the Los Angeles Board of Public Works. In 1978, Calderon joined the Los Angeles City Attorney's office where he built a tough record as a city prosecutor. His first elected position was as a member of the Montebello Unified School District — an election he won by the largest margin in the district's history.

Currently, Senator Calderon serves as a member of the Senate Appropriations, Governmental Organization and Judiciary committees.

Currently, Senator Calderon serves as Majority Leader to the Senate and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee and is a member of the Governmental Organization, and Local Government committees.

During his career as a state lawmaker, Senator Calderon has authored important legislation in many policy areas, including crime victims assistance, equal rights, regulatory reform and banking. During the 1995-96 legislative session Senator Calderon was the leading Democratic proponent and author of legislation implementing the California Earthquake Authority, a state agency to sell earthquake insurance to California property owners. Additionally, Senator Calderon successfully authored the "Drug Dealer Liability Act" — legislation making drug dealers civilly liable for the injuries caused by users of illegal drugs, the "Limited Liability Partnership Act", and legislation to streamline litigation and promote early settlement in construction defect disputes. In the 1993-1994 legislative session Calderon authored Senate Bill 1330, which rewrote California's "Son of Sam" law to prevent felons from cashing in on the notoriety gained from their crimes. Under this legislation, any profits a felon gains from the sale of such items as hats, T-shirts and other crime-related merchandise would be distributed to the criminal's victims. He also authored Senate Bill 1288, which prohibited employers from requiring women to wear skirts in the workplace and increased the fines for businesses that charge women more for such services as haircuts, dry cleaning and tailoring. Calderon also won passage of Senate Bill 923 — a measure that created a pilot program to speed clean-up of California's toxic "superfund" sites.

During the 1992-1993 legislative session Calderon authored Senate Bill 1082, which improved and expedited the state's hazardous waste permitting processes. His Senate Bill 1140 clarified the state's open meetings law for public officials by improving public access to meetings while controlling costs to local governments.

Previous legislative accomplishments include Assembly Bill 244, which requires banks and other institutions to comply with specified Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) standards. Assembly Bill 1492, the Interstate Banking Act, which increases competition among financial institutions and gives consumers more banking options. And, Assembly Bill 241 established the Museum of Latino History, Art and Culture — the first State museum of its kind in the United States.

In the past, Calderon has served as chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus. He is a former board member of the Western Center on Law and Poverty and currently serves on the Board of the California Medical Center.

He is currently a partner in the law firm of Burke, Williams and Sorensen.

## ***Assemblymember Tony Cardenas***

*39th Assembly District: serving the communities of Arleta,  
Hansen Hills, Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills,  
North Hollywood, Pacoima, Panorama City, San Fernando,  
Sun Valley, and Sylmar*



Tony Cardenas was elected to the California State Assembly on November 5, 1996 to represent the Northeast San Fernando Valley. The youngest of eleven children, Tony Cardenas is the product of a modest upbringing, rich in the values of hard work and discipline. As a result, he has achieved both scholastic and professional success.

Tony graduated with an Electronic Engineering degree from University of California at Santa Barbara where he was on the Dean's Honor List. After graduation, he worked at Hewlett Packard as an Engineering Specialist. Today, he is the successful owner and President of Our Community Real Estate Company in the San Fernando Valley.

As a Member of the Assembly, Tony's work ethic and diverse education background have enabled him to serve on several integral policy committees including: Governmental Organization, Natural Resources, Transportation, Joint Legislative Budget and the Select Committee on Aerospace.

Furthermore, as a result of his first-hand business experience and ability to balance social and fiscal responsibility, Tony is the only freshman member to serve on both of the influential Assembly fiscal committees, Appropriations and Budget. He also holds the Chairmanship of the Budget Subcommittee on Transportation and Information Technology.

Tony sees government as a tool to assist citizens on the local level and believes it can serve as a platform to enhance quality of life, as evidenced by his legislative agenda. His priority issues include developing strong local economies by encouraging community businesses and assuring our children greater access to education for both immediate and long-term success. He has also sought to streamline government, allowing agencies to improve their services for people statewide and address the quality of healthcare for Californians.

Tony Cardenas was born and raised in the northeast San Fernando Valley. He currently lives in Sylmar with his wife Norma, daughter Vanessa, and two sons Cristian and Andres.





## ***Assemblymember Gil Cedillo***

*46th Assembly District: Downtown Los Angeles, Bunker Hill, Central City, Civic Center, Boyle heights, Hancock Park, Koreatown, Little Tokyo, Pico-Union, Westlake-MacArthur Park, Wilshire Center, and parts of East and South Central Los Angeles.*

Gil Cedillo grew up in Boyle Heights and is a lifelong resident of the 46th Assembly District. His father worked at American Can in Vernon and was a long-time member of the United Steelworkers of America. His mother was a garment worker

and , later, a factory worker at Sears and the Times-Mirror Press.

Gil attended Lorena St. and Euclid Avenue Elementary, Stevenson Jr. High, and Roosevelt High. At Roosevelt, Gil was the Varsity Quarterback and a star student, whose academic achievements won him a full scholarship to UCLA.

After graduating from UCLA with a BA in sociology in 1979, Gil obtained his JD from the People's College of Law in 1983. During that period he worked as a law clerk for the American Civil Liberties Union, as a substitute teacher, and as a counselor at Pasadena City College. From 1982 to 1983, Gil served as a field representative in the administration of Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

In 1985 Gil Cedillo began working for the Service Employees International Union, Local 660. L.A. County's largest union, SEIU, Local 660 represents more than 42,000 L.A. County workers, ranging from librarians to health care workers to janitors.

From 1991 to 1996, Gil served as General Manager of SEIU Local 660, the longest tenure of any general manager in Local 660 history. During that time, Gil led the efforts which increased union membership by more than 50% (from 19,000 to 29,000), increased union PAC funds from \$20,000 to \$60,000, re-instituted "agency shop" and protected health benefits.

Gil Cedillo is best known for his creative and aggressive leadership of the broad-based worker/community coalition which stopped massive cut-backs in County Services, prevented the dismantling of the L.A. County public health system, protected libraries and youth programs, and saved over 25,000 local jobs.

Cedillo was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention for Jesse Jackson in 1988 and for Bill Clinton in 1996, and serves on the California Rainbow Coalition Steering Committee. Gil played a leadership role in mobilizing community opposition to Proposition 187, and has served on the board of the ACLU of Southern California.

Prior to his election, Gil Cedillo was the Director of the Campaign for Dignity and Civic Participation, which works throughout Southern California to encourage and assist eligible Latinos in becoming U.S. citizens, registering to vote, and fully participating in American civic life.

Currently, Assemblymember Cedillo serves as a member of the Assembly Budget, Consumer Protection, Governmental Efficiency and Economic Development, Insurance, Labor and Employment, Revenue and Taxation, Utilities and Commerce committees.

## ***Assemblymember Denise Moreno Ducheny***

*79th Assembly District: South San Diego, National City  
and portions of Chula Vista.*



Denise Moreno Ducheny, a Democrat, was elected to the California State Assembly on April 12, 1994 in a special election, and was re-elected in November of 1994 and 1996 to full terms representing the 79th District. The district includes South San Diego, National City and portions of Chula Vista.

Assemblywoman Ducheny is Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee and the Assembly Select Committee on California-Mexico Affairs; and Vice-Chair of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Latino Legislative Caucus. In addition, Ms. Ducheny serves as a member of the Assembly Committees on Agriculture; Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials; Governmental Organization; Housing and Community Development, Water, Parks, and Wildlife, the Select Committee on California Ports, the Joint Committee on Fairs Allocation and Classification, and the Coastal Conservancy Board. The Assemblywoman is the first San Diegan, the first Woman, and the first Latina legislator to Chair the Budget Committee.

Ms. Ducheny was born in Southern California, where she attended public high school and received a four-year scholarship from Twentieth-Century Fox Film Corporation to attend Pomona College. While in college she studied Spanish in Cuernavaca, Mexico, then graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in History. She went on to study economic history at the University of Lund, Sweden.

While attending Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles, Ms. Ducheny served as a student director of the Southwestern Clinical Law Center. She has been practicing law in South San Diego since 1979, when she earned her Juris Doctor and was admitted to the California State Bar.

From 1990-94, Ms. Ducheny served as an elected trustee of the governing board of the San Diego Community College District, as a member of the board of directors of the California Community College Trustees Association, and as Chair of the Association of Latino Community College Trustees.

Assemblywoman Ducheny's legislative accomplishments include negotiating a budget which included funding for farmworker housing adopted for the first time in five years; millions of dollars to purchase library books; and funding for parks throughout the state. In addition, she authored the Welfare Reform Act of 1997; authored successful legislation to roll back student fees at the UC, CSU, and Community Colleges for the first time in 13 years; authored landmark reverse mortgage legislation protecting seniors and consumers; and provided local governments with the necessary tools to rehabilitate vacant residential structures.

During her terms in the legislature, Assemblywoman Ducheny has received recognition for her prominence in the legislature from the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego, the California State Student Association, the California Council for Adult Education, La Cooperativa Campesina de California, the California Building Officials, the March of Dimes, Trust for Public Land, the Association of Community College Administrators, the UC Alumni Association, and the Industrial Environmental Association.

Assemblywoman Ducheny has been married for 18 years to Al Ducheny, a political consultant and community activist in San Diego.



## ***Assemblymember Martha M. Escutia***

*50th Assembly District: Cities and Communities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Cudahy, East Los Angeles, Florence-Graham, Huntington Park, Maywood, Miramonte, South Gate, Vernon and Walnut Park.*

Martha Escutia, a Democrat, was elected to the California Assembly in November 1992. Ms. Escutia represents the heavily Latino 50th Assembly District.

Assemblywoman Escutia is the Chairwoman of the Assembly Judiciary Committee. She is the first woman to hold the leadership of this important committee. She is also Chair of the Select Committee on Corridors of Economic Significance, which addresses the challenges of creating sustainable economic viability in California.

The Assemblywoman's varied legislative accomplishments include landmark legislation establishing the first-ever, statewide comprehensive service center for women with HIV/AIDS; various environmental protection bills, including one requiring remedies to address the dangers of aging, hazardous liquid pipelines; and public safety bills, including restitution for moderate income families who have been victims of "white collar" crimes, and tougher provisions for child molesters.

In 1997, she was one of six state legislators appointed to the influential Joint Budget Conference Committee that is responsible for working out the differences between the Assembly and the Senate versions of the state's 1997-98 Budget Bill.

The 1997 legislative year accomplishments also include having the highest number of bills signed into law; spearheading trial court restructuring; and authoring legislation that gave \$25 million to Los Angeles Unified School District for teachers and faculties. The Assemblywoman has played a pivotal role in developing the Alameda Corridor, a \$1.8-billion infrastructure project consolidating train traffic from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to downtown Los Angeles. This project will continue to be a major focus of her attention.

The Assemblywoman is an honors graduate of the University of Southern California with a degree in Public Administration. She received her law degree from Georgetown University. She also holds certificates in both advanced international legal studies of trade and tariffs from the World Court in The Hague, Holland, and in foreign investment from the National Autonomous University in Mexico City.

She served as the Senior Research Attorney for the Los Angeles County Superior Court, where she trained and supervised research attorneys in the Law and Motion Department. In addition, she pursued private practice with a Los Angeles law firm specializing in civil litigation.

As Vice President of Government Affairs and Public Policy at United Way of Los Angeles, she developed a successful advocacy network with non-profit agencies, government, and the private sector, to address health and human service issues.

A native of East Los Angeles, she is married to Leo Briones and has a young son, Andres.

Home Page: <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/demweb/members/a50/>

## ***Assemblymember Liz Figueroa***

*20th Assembly District: Fremont, Milpitas,  
Newark, and portions of Santa Clara, San Jose,  
Pleasanton, Sunol, and Sunnyvale.*



Liz Figueroa, a Democrat, was elected to the California State Assembly in November 1994 to represent the 20th Assembly District. She is the first Northern California Latina to be elected to the California State Assembly in this century.

Assemblymember Figueroa is the Chair of both the Insurance Committee and the Select Committee on Aerospace, and member of the Assembly Committees on Budget, Consumer Protection, Health, Judiciary, and Transportation. She is also the Speaker's appointee to the California Commission on the Status of Women.

In 1997, Figueroa was named "Legislator of the Year" by eight organizations, including the March of Dimes, the American Academy of Pediatricians, the Association of Retarded Citizens and the California National Organization for Women. In addition, the American Electronics Association named Figueroa "Legislator of the Year." She has authored several bills to help her high-tech constituency and she serves as a member of the Assembly Committee on Education Technology.

At the end of her first term, Figueroa sent nine bills to the Governor's desk, all of which were signed into law; the highest percentage of any freshman legislator. She has consistently carried legislation that demonstrates her dedication to serving the needs of her constituents - improving access to and the quality of health care, streamlining business regulations and protecting consumers. In 1996, Figueroa worked with the White House on landmark legislation that ensures a two-day hospital stay for mothers and their newborns.

The Assemblymember was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She attended school at the College of San Mateo and the University of California at Berkeley. At the age of 18, she was the youngest person to be appointed to serve on the San Mateo Human Relations Commission. In 1985, she was the recipient of the Outstanding Young Woman of America Award.

Prior to serving in the State Assembly, she owned and operated Figueroa Employment Consultants, a business that specialized in placing injured workers in jobs, for seventeen years. In 1985, she was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Union Sanitary District and served as the district's president, the first female in its 71-year history.

Assemblymember Figueroa currently serves on the Hispanic Community Affairs Council, Fremont Adult School Advisory Board, Legal Assistance for Seniors Board of Directors, California Elected Women's Association for Education Research (CEWAER) Board of Directors and the Peninsula College of Law Advisory Board. Figueroa is married to Robert Bloom, and is the mother of AnaLisa, 23 and Aaron, 20.

Home Page: <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/demweb/members/a20/>



## ***Assemblymember Martin Gallegos, D.C.***

*57th Assembly District: Includes the communities of Azusa, Baldwin Park, El Monte, Irwindale, City of Industry, La Puente, Hacienda Heights, Bassett, Valinda and portions of South El Monte, West Covina and Glendora.*

Assemblymember Martin Gallegos was elected to the 57th Assembly District in November, 1994. Dr. Gallegos made history by becoming the first Doctor of Chiropractic ever elected to the California State Legislature. Prior to serving in the State Assembly, Dr. Gallegos was a member of the Baldwin Park City Council from 1990 through 1994, where he was Mayor pro tem from 1992 to 1994.

Assemblymember Gallegos serves as Chair of the Assembly Health Committee and is a member of the Assembly Budget, Human Services, Insurance, Labor and Employment and Finance Committee.

He received his education while attending East Los Angeles College, Occidental College, and Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. Assemblymember Gallegos has earned an Associate of Arts Degree, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, and graduated as a Doctor of Chiropractic in 1982. Dr. Gallegos has maintained a private practice with his wife, Rita, in Baldwin Park since 1985.

While a council member, Dr. Gallegos served on the Board of Directors for the Independent Cities Association, the San Gabriel Valley Association of Cities, the San Gabriel Valley Commerce and Cities Consortium, and the Foothill Transit Zone.

During his professional career, Dr. Gallegos was appointed a Qualified Medical Examiner by the State of California. He also served as a Commissioner to the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners and was a faculty member of the Los Angeles College of Chiropractic. In 1992, Dr. Gallegos was appointed to the State Senate Task Force on Medical Cost Containment in Workers' Compensation. Dr. Gallegos has also been Chairman of the Chiropractic Service at Doctor's Hospital of West Covina and Terrace Plaza Medical Center in Baldwin Park, where he was a member of the Board of Directors.

Dr. Gallegos is the first Doctor of Chiropractic to be named Distinguished Lifetime Member by the California Chiropractic Association. In 1995, the association bestowed upon him the President's Award and the Thomas N. Truax Award for Excellence in Governmental Affairs and Political Action. In 1992, he earned the Distinguished Service Award from the California Chiropractic Association, and in 1994, Dr. Gallegos received the Distinguished Service Award from the Orange Chiropractic Society.

Over the years, Assemblymember Gallegos has compiled an extensive record of community service. For his efforts, he was named the 1994-95 Citizen of the Year by the Baldwin Park Chamber of Commerce. He has served as President of the Rotary Club of Baldwin Park and President of the Board of Directors of the East Valley Boy's and Girl's Club. Dr. Gallegos is a former Director of the Baldwin Park Chamber of Commerce. From 1992-94, he was a member of the Adult Education Vocational Advisory Committee, and the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education Advisory Committee of the Baldwin Park Unified School District. In 1990, Dr. Gallegos became a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Foundation and is also a benefactor of the foundation.

As the only health care provider currently elected to the California Legislature, Dr. Gallegos has established his primary legislative focus on improving access to and quality of health care for all individuals. Dr. Gallegos' legislative package has demonstrated his dedication in serving the needs of all his constituents.

Dr. Gallegos has authored legislation to provide protections for residential communities located near landfills. He is a strong advocate and supporter of worker's rights. Several of Gallegos' consumer protection bills were signed into law. Legislation to provide more parental involvement in pupil's rehabilitation was also authored by Gallegos and signed into law. Additionally, legislation aiding in the fight against graffiti and crimes in local parks has also been a part of Gallegos' agenda.



## ***Assemblymember Sally M. Havice***

*56th Assembly District: Includes the cities of  
Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood  
and portions of Long Beach and Hawaiian Gardens*



Sally Havice was elected to the State Assembly for the 56th District in November 1996. Assemblymember Havice serves as member of the Assembly Higher Education, Housing and Community Development, Labor and Employment and Transportation committees. She also chairs the Select Committees on California Ports and School Safety.

Ms. Havice is a life-long member of the community and grew up in the Cerritos/Norwalk area where she attended local schools and graduated from Excelsior High School.

After attending business college, she was employed in local government. During a successful career in local municipal government, she returned to school to pursue a degree and credential requirements to enable her to realize her life-long ambition of becoming a teacher. Consequently, she earned her two A.A. degrees from Cerritos College, one in Social Studies and the other in Spanish, with honors; a Bachelor's degree in English, Cum Laude, and a Master's degree in Linguistics from California State University, Long Beach, with additional doctoral studies at USC and the University of Hawaii. During this active professional and academic career, she raised three sons, Edward (a physician), Raul (a police officer), and Joseph (a computer scientist). Ms. Havice also has eight grandchildren.

For twenty-two years Ms. Havice was a professor of English at Cerritos College, where she teaches English composition and literature, as well as speech communication. At Cerritos College, she also served as Interim Assistant Dean of Liberal Arts, and Community Liaison for the Cultural Arts. Her work on campus also included numerous committees such as the Citizens' Resource Advisory, Cerritos College Faculty Association Executive Board, and the Faculty Senate, which selected her after her first term as Outstanding Faculty Senator.

Ms. Havice was first elected to the ABC Unified School Board of Education in 1989 and was re-elected in 1993. Examples of her leadership are the school district's school safety task force and the initiation of the pending code of conduct policy for the members of the board of education.

Over the years Ms. Havice has been very active in her community. A few examples of her past and present community service include the following: helped to implement the Cultural Performing Arts after-school program, which emphasized music and dance instruction, serving the children of Artesia, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada and Norwalk.; Member, Southeast Area Task Force on Youth Violence; Executive Board, Su Casa Family Violence Shelter; Board Member, Southeast Regional Occupations Programs; Member, National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC); Member, American Association of University Women; Member, State Superintendent of Public Education's Advisory Committee; ABC/Norwalk-La Mirada Gang Prevention Partnership Program - Sister Schools Peace Project; Charter Member and Executive Officer, League of United Latin American Citizens - Southeast Area; Advisor to several Cerritos College student clubs and organizations, including Asian Indian Student Club, Korean; American Student Association, MEChA, and the Pilipino American Student Alliance; Member, Sexual Harassment Task Force - Cerritos College; President, Cerritos College Faculty Association (CCFA), CTA, 1990-1992; Vice President, 1986-1990; Secretary, 1980-1986; Member, Delegate Assembly, California School Boards Association; Executive Board Member, Granada Park Homeowners' Association; Charter Member, Optimist International, Sunnyside Chapter.



## ***Assemblymember Diane Martinez***

*49th Assembly District: The cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead, and San Gabriel along with the communities of El Sereno, City Terrace, and East Los Angeles.*

Diane Martinez was elected to the California State Assembly on November 3, 1992.

Diane is currently the Chairwoman of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee. She also serves on the following Assembly committees: Appropriations, Education, Judiciary, Insurance and International Trade and Development. She is also the Speaker of the Assembly's appointment to the Little Hoover Commission and the Electricity Oversight Board.

In 1993, Assemblywoman Martinez became the Chairwoman of the Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments, the first freshman legislator ever to be appointed as Chair of a standing committee.

Diane also served as Chairwoman of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee from June, 1995 until January, 1996. As Chair of the committee, Diane chaired numerous hearings on electrical restructuring, the future of telecommunications and universal service.

Diane has received numerous awards and acknowledgements for her work in the community, in education, the environment, energy and public utilities, and on law enforcement issues. Upon election to the Assembly, Ms. Martinez gained immediate recognition as a serious legislator after authoring a bill to facilitate completion of a 6.2 mile missing link in the 710 Long Beach Freeway. Additionally, she received international recognition and assumed a position of prominence on women's issues as the author of a 1994 "pant bill" which made it legal for women to wear pants in the work place.

Diane resides in the city of Monterey Park and is married to Dr. Jon Elliott Man. Both Diane and her 20-year old daughter, Kate, are alumni of Mark Keppel High School in the Alhambra School District. Kate is a Junior at Smith College in Massachusetts. A lifetime resident of the San Gabriel Valley, Ms. Martinez was elected to the Garvey School Board in 1987. In 1988, Diane became President of the Garvey School Board by unanimous consent of her fellow Board Members. She was reelected in 1991 and was again chosen as President of the Board.

Prior to her election to the State Legislature, Diane worked in the telecommunications industry. In her 17-year career in telecommunications, she developed local and national networks as well as participating in state and federal regulatory forums.

## ***Assemblymember Grace Napolitano***

*58th Assembly District: The cities and communities of Los Nietos, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, South El Monte, South Whittier, Whittier*



Napolitano was elected to her third and final two-year term in the California State Assembly on November 5, 1996, representing the Fifty-eighth district in Southeast Los Angeles County. Following her first election in 1992, Grace quickly emerged as a leader in the "term-limits era" and was elected by her female colleagues as Chair of the California Women's Legislative Caucus. She also served as Vice-Chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus.

Assemblywoman Napolitano currently chairs the Assembly Committee on International Trade and Development. In this role she is working aggressively to create jobs by facilitating access to foreign markets for California exports. In addition, she is focusing considerable attention on state and federal trade policies and programs to help ensure that California maintains its global competitiveness into the 21st century.

Grace also serves on the Consumer Protection Governmental Efficiency and Economic Development; Local Government; Public Safety; and Transportation Committees.

She has been very active in national women's issues, Latino leadership and issues, and local government issues dealing with water, transportation, infrastructure, redevelopment, and finance. Grace was selected in a nationwide process by the Center For Policy Alternatives and Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C. for a Flemming Fellowship in 1994.

As a recognized leader in such important federal and state issues as international trade, environmental protection, economic development, and immigration, Assemblywoman Napolitano has made numerous official visits to Mexico to participate in high-level trade negotiations and bilateral economic development. She has led a trade mission of California officials and businesspersons to Beijing, Shanghai and Wuhan in China, and has convened two international trade conferences featuring participation by over ten national governments from throughout the Americas and the Pacific Rim. Grace F. Napolitano has also received numerous international dignitaries making official visits to the California State Capitol.

A staunch preservationist and environmental advocate, Assemblywoman Napolitano has been instrumental in the successful effort to secure huge tracts of open land for the creation of the largest new park and wilderness area in Southern California located in Whittier, reclaimed from excess oil producing property.

Since her days as a City Commissioner fostering international friendship and cooperation through sister-city relationships between nations, Grace Napolitano has strongly believed in empowering people to participate directly in the governing process through service to the community. She has established Advisory Committees of interested volunteers on issues dealing with education, veterans affairs, business, transportation and youth. The committees are actively engaged in the research, planning, and implementation of conferences, constituent assistance, and issue and legislation development.

One of the hardest working members of the legislature, Grace Napolitano was recently praised by the respected California Journal as one of the Assembly's most diligent members. Her efforts have given her enormous satisfaction as a self-described "servant of the people".

Grace is married to Frank Napolitano, retired restaurateur and community activist. They reside in Norwalk and have five grown children and twelve grandchildren.



## ***Assemblymember Deborah V. Ortiz***

*9th Assembly District: most of the City of Sacramento and portions of Sacramento County*

Assemblymember Deborah Ortiz was elected to the California State Assembly in November 1996. During her first year in office, Deborah's accomplishments include authoring new laws on issues ranging from women's health to school safety. All of her bills that made it to the Governor's desk in 1997 were signed into law.

Deborah is working to create welfare reform that respects taxpayers, puts recipients to work and protects children. She championed legislation to expand school-based extended day care that incorporates job-training opportunities for parents at their children's school site. This newly enacted legislation encourages a collaborative effort from local school districts, private businesses, community colleges, county programs, and parks and recreation agencies. Deborah's legislation is recognized as the national model for after-school programs.

Additionally, Deborah is committed to focusing national attention on the unique health concerns of women and minorities. At the forefront in the battle against ovarian cancer, Deborah authored legislation for \$2 million dedicated to ongoing ovarian and prostate cancer research. She is currently sponsoring legislation for additional funding, so that women and their doctors may learn about the latest trials and innovative therapies for this deadly disease.

Deborah is a passionate violence prevention advocate. In an effort to assist Sacramento County create realistic solutions to child abuse, she is spearheading the first major grassroots child abuse task force entitled, "Creating a Child Abuse Prevention Program for Sacramento County". Deborah also enacted legislation requiring school districts to perform criminal background checks on all employees.

Deborah is a staunch supporter of programs that benefit and protect seniors. This year she has introduced legislation to establish basic safety standards for paratransit operators who transport elderly and disabled persons on a for-hire basis. Deborah is committed to eliminating existing loopholes that leave a large number of paratransit operators totally uncovered by safety regulations. She also sits as an advisory member on the Sacramento Area Latino Study on Aging, raising awareness on senior health issues and policy advocacy for elderly Latinos.

As a member of the Assembly Revenue & Taxation Committee, Deborah has introduced legislation to ease the confusion associated with filing tax returns. The measure would also place the burden of proof on the Franchise Tax Board in court proceedings, provide relief for innocent spouses, and suspend the statute of limitations for claiming a refund or credit during periods of physical or mental impairment.

In order to better serve her diverse constituency, Assemblymember Ortiz is a member of the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition, Sacramento County Tobacco Control Coalition, the Sacramento City Unified School District Student Safety Task Force, and the Regional Partnership Advisory Committee - working to empower at-risk students to attend college. In 1997, she was honored to become the first California legislator appointed to the National Council of La Raza. She is also a recipient of the Sacramento Housing Alliance Award for her work in improving housing in Sacramento's toughest neighborhoods.

Prior to being elected to the Assembly, Deborah served on the Sacramento City Council from 1993-96. She graduated from UC Davis and McGeorge School of Law. Soon after graduation, she worked as a senior consultant in the California Legislature. A life-long resident of Sacramento, Deborah still lives in the Oak Park neighborhood where she grew up.

## Senator Richard G. Polanco

*22nd Senate District: including the communities of Highland Park, Eagle Rock, Mount Washington, Lincoln Heights, Montecito Heights, Glassell Park, Cypress Park, Boyle Heights, Westlake, Pico/Union, Koreatown, Silver Lake, Echo Park, Downtown, Chinatown, Little Tokyo and Hollywood.*



Richard G. Polanco (D-Los Angeles) was elected Majority Leader of the California Senate on February 7, 1998. Senator Polanco is only the second Latino in California history to be elected Senate Majority Leader.

First elected in 1986, Richard Polanco served in the State Assembly for eight years and won election to the State Senate in 1994. Senator Polanco is best known for his work with the Latino Legislative Caucus which he has chaired since 1990. As Chairman of the Latino Caucus, Richard Polanco led efforts to increase the number of Democratic Latino legislators from seven to seventeen over the past seven years which contributed greatly to the election of the first Latino Speaker of the Assembly.

Senator Polanco serves on the following committees: Senate Business and Professions Committee (Chair), Joint Committee on Prison Construction and Operations (Chair), Subcommittee on the Americas (Chair), Budget and Fiscal Review - Subcommittee #4, Elections and Reapportionment, Finance, Investment & International Trade, Health & Human Services, Public Safety and Transportation.

As a state lawmaker, Senator Polanco has been a leader in the fight to protect education funding, promote equal opportunity, and defend California's growing immigrant population. Senator Polanco has led efforts to improve farmworker housing, organize Latino farmers, improve access to higher education for immigrant youth and organize citizenship and voter registration drives throughout the state. From the Central Valley to the Central Coast, from his base in Southern California to rural communities in Northern California, Polanco has been one of California's most outspoken advocates for California's emerging Latino immigrant population.

Senator Polanco has also authored key legislation that fueled California's economic recovery. He authored legislation that helped jump-start the electric car industry in California, he has worked closely with California's motion picture industry to maintain California's competitive edge in film production and as a choice for film locations and he has been a tireless advocate for small businesses and equal opportunity in contracting for women, minority and veteran-owned businesses.

This year Senate Majority Leader Richard Polanco continues his efforts to make California a better place to live. In areas as diverse as gun control, education, prison reform, health care, child welfare, citizenship, transportation and water, Senator Polanco will continue to be one of California's leading policymakers.

A native of Los Angeles, Richard Polanco grew up in East Los Angeles. He graduated from James A. Garfield High School and East Los Angeles College and went on to attend both the University of Redlands and the Universidad de Mexico majoring in business administration.

Senator Polanco began his career in public service through his involvement in student government, the Junior Optimist Club, and other youth organizations. He founded the East Side Association that enabled more than 500 youths to compete in sports while emphasizing academics and learning skills. Polanco later helped to establish the Arroyo Vista Family Health Center in Highland Park which offers quality health care with fees based on the patient's ability to pay.

Senator Polanco will not face term limits until 2002.

### Personal:

Born: March 4, 1951 • Wife: Olivia Polanco • Children: Richard Jr., Gabriel & Liana





## ***Senator Hilda L. Solis***

*24th Senate District: Alhambra, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bassett, Belvedere, City Terrace, East Los Angeles, El Monte, El Sereno, Hacienda Heights, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, Monterey Park, Rosemead, South San Gabriel, Valinda, and portions of North Whittier, South El Monte, Temple City, West Covina and Glendora*

Senator Hilda L. Solis was elected to the newly re-apportioned 24th Senatorial District in November of 1994. Upon her election, she made history by becoming the first Latina to ever serve in the State Senate. Prior to being elected to the upper house of the Legislature, Hilda, served in the Assembly from 1992-1994 where she represented the 57th Assembly District.

As Majority Whip, the Senator is an integral part of the Senate Democratic leadership. She Chairs the Senate Industrial Relations Committee, and the Senate Subcommittee on Asia Trade & Commerce, as well as the Select Committee on Bilingual Education. She is Vice-Chair of Finance, Investment & International Trade and is a member of Budget and Fiscal Review; Energy, Utilities & Communications; Environmental Quality; and Health and Human Service Committees.

Before seeking public office Hilda Solis established an exemplary record of public service. After earning her B.A. at Cal Poly Pomona and her masters at the University of Southern California, Solis served as Editor-in-Chief for the White House Office of Hispanic Affairs during the Carter Administration. She also served as management analyst for the U.S. Office of Management and Budget in Washington, DC. Hilda was a two term member of the Rio Hondo Community College Board of Trustees (1985-1992). In 1991 Solis was appointed by Supervisor Gloria Molina to serve on the Los Angeles County Insurance Commission.

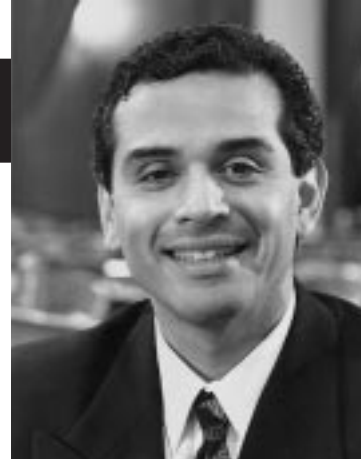
Solis has been recognized and honored for her efforts by many organizations including: The San Gabriel Valley YWCA, The California State University Alumni Council, the American Diabetes Association, California NOW, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; The American Cancer Society, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor; La Cooperativa Campesina De California, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, California School Board Association and the California League of Conservation Voters. Her alma-mater Cal Poly Pomona has established the "Hilda L. Solis Scholarship" for her support and dedication to the University as well as naming a library room in her honor. She is also featured in "American Women Speak" — Voices of American Women in Public Life.

Senator Solis has demonstrated a rare willingness to take on tough issues. Solis has authored landmark legislation in the areas of domestic violence, labor, environmental protection, education and crime and most recently welfare reform. She has been a strong advocate for women's rights and a leading author of measures pertaining to women's health, restraining orders and spousal rape. She recently spearheaded the effort to raise the minimum wage in California.

Hilda is the first of 7 children in her family to attend college and is a lifelong resident of the San Gabriel Valley. Her parents still live in the house where she was raised, and her husband Sam is a small business owner who has been working in the community for 15 years.

## ***Assemblymember Antonio R. Villaraigosa***

*45th Assembly District: the center of Los Angeles north of the Civic Center to the Eagle Rock and Highland Park areas, west along Santa Monica Boulevard to Hollywood, also includes Echo Park, Silver Lake and Mt. Washington*



Assembly Majority Leader Antonio R. Villaraigosa was first elected in 1994, to represent the 45th Assembly District. He was re-elected in 1996.

In January 1998, the Members of the State Assembly voted Antonio Villaraigosa the Speaker of the Assembly.

As a freshman during the 1995-96 Session, Antonio was a member of the Assembly Democratic leadership serving as Democratic Whip. For the 1997-98 Session, Speaker Cruz Bustamante appointed Antonio to the Assembly's number two position, Majority Leader. In that position, he managed Assembly floor activities and worked with to ensure the smooth flow of legislative business.

Antonio's legislative priorities focus on children, including expanded health care and educational opportunities. He supports more effective policing, drug rehabilitation programs, juvenile justice reform, and tougher gun control laws.

He was the driving force in 1997 that ultimately resulted in enactment of landmark legislation that provides health insurance coverage to some 580,000 children of working parents, through the newly created Healthy Families Program. It is the largest expansion of health insurance coverage since the creation of the Medi-Cal program.

A champion of immigrant rights, Antonio authored a bill to maintain services for all legal California residents, including food stamps, supplemental security income, in-home support services and long-term care. The bill would have also established programs to help immigrants become citizens.

Antonio's 1997 legislation also included measures to provide funding to local governments and schools for safe playground equipment, set new training standards for the state's prison guards, and improve the collection of child support from deadbeat parents. He was successful in streamlining state approval procedures for school repair and construction projects, including those funded by Proposition BB, a \$24 billion school bond measure approved in 1997 by voters in Los Angeles.

Antonio gained attention during his first year in office as the author of groundbreaking legislation to protect the rights of breastfeeding mothers, a measure that was signed into law in 1997. He also carried legislation to streamline and improve the state's compassionate release program for terminally ill or physically incapacitated inmates. Additionally, he led the charge to restore adequate funding for the state's juvenile probation camps, funds critical to Los Angeles County.

The Assembly member is also a staunch environmentalist who supports job creation through technological development and the use of alternative energy sources.

Prior to running for office, Antonio served as an Area Representative for United Teachers Los Angeles. He is also the former President of the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 3230, and he served on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Rapid Transit District and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Antonio has been active in many community organizations, including the Greater Eastside Voter Registration and Education Project, Jobs With Peace, the Los Angeles Unified School District's Mexican American Education Commission, and the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice. In 1997, the California Abortion Rights Action League named him Legislator of the Year. He has also received the Life Lobby LIFE Achievement Award, the Peace Officers Research Association of California Legislator of the Year award, the California Building Industry Association Legislative Leadership award and the People's College of Law Outstanding Alumni Achievement award.

Antonio is a lifelong resident of the Los Angeles area and is a graduate of UCLA. He lives in Mt. Washington with his wife, Corina, and has four children and one granddaughter.

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